

**From:** Yonatan Yoshpe  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/17/02 3:04pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Greetings,

This is in response to public comments on the proposed Microsoft antitrust settlement:

Microsoft's monopoly power is evident directly on the Internet where it now controls the browser field, claims the highest use on the internet via its portal, and is claiming control over travel, personal banking, and many other fields.

With Windows XP this power got translated to an almost complete destruction of the publishing businesses on the net (like landings.com) by introducing a new "feature" into Internet Explorer (as default part of the OS) which would highlight words appearing in the browser window and hyper-link these to Microsoft controlled sites. In other words, Microsoft would have hijacked the work of the independent publisher to its own benefit, and due to its monopoly power in the field, the publisher would not have any recourse. This was stopped at the last moment due to public outcry. But Microsoft does not often listen to the public, nor should this be an outcry, it should be up to a healthy market place, where multiple players control the field, so that no single company can dictate the state of the market or its "features". This single new "feature", which would have led to a real destruction for thousands of working, producing, and income providing sites on the net, is only an example. In every single field of influence in the software and many different related net or phone hardware elements, Microsoft monopoly is evident and creates huge havoc to the industry. It limits the choices we make in product introductions (knowing that Microsoft will grab a successful product, copy it, and sell it under its force - prevents many efforts in-house), and other choices are simply discarded because Microsoft already enjoys monopoly in a particular product field. There is endless untold limitations on creativity, and untold losses incurred due to the monopolistic activities of this giant.

There are thousands of small publishers making a living from independent efforts such as Landings.com. These efforts are crucial to the related publishers, but often (just as in the case of Landings.com) provide an extremely important independent source of information, databases, news, opinion, and comment to their respective industry segments.

I am against any settlement that does not break up Microsoft into separate OS and application companies. Without such a separation the

result would be quite catastrophic for large segments of the software, hardware, and Internet industries.

Sincerely,

Yonatan Yoshpe, President, Landings.com